



Whitby Urban District



REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1940

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

M. Dale Wood, M.D.

AND OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

O. E. Graham, M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WHITBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I am glad to report that the general health of the town during 1940 has been good, and that with the exception of an epidemic of measles among children the incidence of infectious disease has been slight.

This Report is again in abbreviated form and deals only with essential details as required by the Minister of Health.

I wish to draw special attention of that part of the Sanitary Inspector's Report which deals with Salved Materials, the cash value of which is an indication of the thoroughness of the effort which has been made by him and all members of his staff.

Your obedient servant,

M. DALE WOOD.

Grape Lane,
Whitby,
Yorks.

July, 1941.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Name.	Qualifications	Office held	Whole or part time	Other Public Offices held
M. DALE WOOD	M.D., B.S.	Medical Officer of Health, Medical Officer of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. Medical Superintendent Isolation Hospital.	Whole	Medical Officer of Health Whitby Rural District Council. School Medical Inspector North Riding Yorks. County Council.
O. E. GRAHAM	M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C., Cert.R.S.I. Diploma Meat and Food, Cert.Inst.Public Cleansing.	Sanitary Inspector, Director of Cleansing Department.	Whole	
Miss D. M. JOHNSON	S.R.N., S.C.M., Cert.H.V.	Health Visitor.	Whole	
Miss A G. ROBBINS	S R.N., S.C.M.	Maternity Nurse.	Whole	
Mrs. F. PYOTT	S.C.M.	Maternity Nurse	Whole	
Mrs. M. O. GOAD	S.R.N. General & Fever, F.B.C.N.	Matron Isolation Hospital	Whole	

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area.—The Area of the District in acres (inclusive of land covered by water) is 2,793.8 acres.

Registrar-General's Estimate of Population:—

1940 ...	11,550	1939 ...	11,560	1938 ...	11,500
	1937 ...	11,630	1936 ...	11,720	

Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of the year:—

1940.	1939.	1938.	1937.	1936.
3,839	3,886	3,834	3,828	3,817

Number of New Houses built in 1940.—4.

Rateable Value £84,000

Sum represented by a Penny Rate.—£320.

Extract from Vital Statistics of the Year 1940:—

	M.	F.	Total.
Live Births	93	92	185
(Legitimate)	88	85	173
(Illegitimate)	5	7	12

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population .. 16.0

Still Births	1	3	4
(Legitimate)	1	3	4
(Illegitimate)	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ..	21.1.		

Deaths	91	94	185
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ..	16.0		

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) 0

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age:—

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	0	1	1
	—	—	—
Total ...	4	3	7
	—	—	—

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	36.6
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births...	33.8
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births..	71.4
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	27
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

1940 :

For the whole of England and Wales per 1,000 of total population:—

Live Birth Rate	14.6
Death Rate (all causes)	14.3

DEATHS AT SPECIFIED AGES.

Age in Years.	1936.		1937.		1938.		1939.		1940.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 ...	3	7	7	3	5	1	1	3	4	2
1 to 4 ...	3	1	0	0	3	0	2	0	3	3
5 to 14 ...	0	0	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	3
15 to 24 ...	2	1	0	0	5	4	0	1	8	1
25 to 44 ...	2	6	3	5	4	4	7	0	7	5
45 to 64 ...	19	20	23	17	24	13	15	16	24	20
65 & over ...	37	41	44	55	44	46	40	49	45	60
All ages ...	66	76	78	81	86	70	66	70	91	94
Total ...	142		159		156		136		185	

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1940.

According to Registrar-General's Classification:—

	Males.	Females.	T'tl.
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	0	0	0
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	2
3. Scarlet Fever	0	1	1
4. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
5. Diphtheria	0	1	1
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	2	6
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	1	3
8. Syphilitic Diseases	1	0	1
9. Influenza	2	3	5
10. Measles	1	0	1
11. Ac: Polio-myelitis & Polio-enceph:	0	0	0
12. Acute Infantile Encephalitis	0	0	0
13. Cancer of Mouth and Oesoph: (M.) Uterus (F.)	2	0	2
14. Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum ...	2	3	5
15. Cancer of Breast	0	2	2
16. Cancer of all other sites	8	10	18
17. Diabetes	0	0	0
18. Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	15	13	28
19. Heart Disease	20	28	48
20. Other Circulatory Diseases	0	1	1
21. Bronchitis	5	6	11
22. Pneumonia	1	2	3
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	2	0	2
24. Ulcer: of Stomach or Duodenum ...	0	0	0
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	0	0	0
26. Appendicitis	0	0	0
27. Other Digestive Diseases	1	4	5
28. Nephritis	0	2	2
29. Puerperal & Post-abortion. Sepsis	0	0	0
30. Other Maternal Causes	0	0	0
31. Premature Birth	2	1	3
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries and Infantile Diseases...	2	1	3
33. Suicide	2	0	2
34. Road Traffic Accidents	0	0	0
35. Other Violent Causes	11	4	15
36. All Other Causes	7	8	15
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All Causes	91	94	185
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SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

Ambulance Facilities.

Nursing in the Home.

No change from last Report.

Treatment Centres:

Maternity and Child WELFARE CENTRE.

Sessions held	39
1st Attendances of Infants	96
1st Attendances of Toddlers	109
Total Attendances Infants	836
Total Attendances Toddlers	1246
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Total	2,082
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Average Attendance per session	53
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Ante-Natal Clinic:

Sessions held	39
Expectant Mothers	132
Total Attendances	389

Post-Natal Clinic:

Total Attendances	77
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“ Sunlight ” Clinic:

Cases treated	19
Applications	39 ¹

Minor Ailment Clinic:

Treatments	77 ¹
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Hospitals—Public and Voluntary:

The Whitby War Memorial Cottage Hospital.

The Isolation Hospital, Stainsacre Lane.

WHITBY ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

RETURNS FOR THE YEAR 1940.

Patients.	Urban.	Rural.	Outside District.	T'tl.
Remaining Dec. 31st, 1939:—				
Scarlet Fever	6	2	0	8
Observation	1	0	0	1
Admitted, 1940:—				
Scarlet Fever	30	11	0	41
Diphtheria	10	7	0	17
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	6	1	0	7
Infantile Paralysis	1	0	0	1
Mumps	1	0	0	1
Erysipelas	1	0	0	1
Observation Cases	11	1	1	13
Discharged cured, 1940:—				
Scarlet Fever	33	13	0	46
Diphtheria	7	—	0	14
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	4	1	0	5
Infantile Paralysis	1	0	0	1
Mumps	1	0	0	1
Erysipelas	1	0	0	1
Observation Cases	13	1	1	15
Died during 1940:—				
Scarlet Fever	1	0	0	1
Diphtheria	1	0	0	1
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	2	0	0	2
Remaining Dec. 31st, 1940:—				
Scarlet Fever	2	0	0	2
Diphtheria	1	0	0	1
Average stay of Patients in Days	33.93	46.75		37.01
Daily average of occupied beds...	5.68	2.55		8.23

The daily average of occupied beds was in:—

1940.	1939.	1938.	1937.	1936.
8.23	10.3	24.1	5.8	4.5

SUMMARY OF "PATIENT-DAYS" DURING 1940.

Month.	Urban.	Rural.	Outside District.	Total.
January	218 ...	78 ...	0 ...	296
February	249 ...	117 ...	0 ...	366
March	359 ...	179 ...	0 ...	538
April	154 ...	191 ...	0 ...	345
May	194 ...	108 ...	0 ...	302
June	143 ...	42 ...	0 ...	185
July	208 ...	54 ...	0 ...	262
August	229 ...	79 ...	0 ...	308
September	80 ...	3 ...	2 ...	85
October	45 ...	31 ...	7 ...	83
November	71 ...	32 ...	0 ...	103
December	111 ...	21 ...	0 ...	132
	<hr/> 2061 <hr/>	<hr/> 935 <hr/>	<hr/> 9 <hr/>	<hr/> 3005 <hr/>

Midwifery and Maternity Services.

The two Municipal Midwives during the year attended:

As Midwife 69 cases

As Maternity Nurse 41 cases

Operative Treatment.—During 1940 three Obstetric cases, requiring operation, were treated at the Whitby Cottage Hospital.

During 1940, one patient, in an unsuitable home, was admitted for confinement in the Whitby Institution.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—One patient required Institutional treatment during the year 1940.

Milk Meals.—A free supply to necessitous cases was provided up to June 30th, and for the six months amounted to:—

For Expectant Mothers 32 gallons

For Nursing Mothers 353 gallons

For Infants and Children 1013 gallons

Total

1,398 gallons

On July 1st, the National Milk Scheme for Mothers and Children came into force, and from that day the milk supply by the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority ceased.

Dental Treatment.—At the Dental Clinic, the following received treatment:—

Expectant and Nursing Mothers	34
Pre-School Children	4

Maternal Mortality.—According to the Registrar-General's Returns, there have been no deaths from Puerperal causes since the year 1930.

Health Visitors.

The visits paid by the Health Visitor were, in 1940:—

First Visits to Expectant Mothers	30
Total Visits to Expectant Mothers	92
First Visits to Children under 1 year of age	173
Total Visits to Children under 1 year of age	1739
Total Visits to Children between 1 and 5 years	1623

Child Life Protection.

Number of Persons on Register who received Children for reward at the end of the year 1940	1
Number of Children on Register:—	
(1) At the end of 1940	1
(2) Who died during the year	0

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1.—(i) Water.

The water undertaking is owned by the Whitby Waterworks Company. A good supply was maintained during the year.

A recent Bacteriological Report received from the Pathologist of the County Laboratory, Scarborough, gave the following details:—

Number of organisms in 1 c.c. producing colonies visible to the naked eye on agar plates in 3 days at 22°C.	440
Ditto in 0.5 c.c.	270
Number of organisms in 1 c.c. producing colonies visible to the naked eye on agar plates in 2 days at 37°C.	130
Ditto in 0.5 c.c.	80
Bacillus Coli not found in	100 c.c.
Streptococci not found in	100 c.c.
Bacillus Enteritidis Sporogenes not found in	250 c.c.

Remarks:—A good water—safe for drinking.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC CLEANSING.

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage.

Ten private drains were re-constructed during the year.

Closet Accommodation, etc.

Accommodation in the District at present:—

Water Closets	4400
Dust Bins	3099
Dry Ashpits	232
Privies with removeable pans	120

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

DETAILS OF COLLECTION.

	Freighter Loads.	Trade Refuse Loads.
January (5 weeks)	202½	64
February	158½	59
March	162	50
April	179	48
May (5 weeks)	218	56
June	160	31
July (5 weeks)	201	49
August	140	26
September	131	30
October (5 weeks)	176	40
November	146½	32
December	140½	40
	<hr/> 2,015	<hr/> 525

Many of the Personnel have joined H.M. Forces, and the work is being carried on by a depleted Staff, who, in addition to their regular work, have also taken up Civil Defence duties.

Trade refuse is not collected, but when delivered by tradesmen at the works is disposed of free of charge.

By arrangement with the Whitby Rural District Council, refuse from Robin Hood's Bay district is also treated.

Details of Disposal.

Materials are screened at the Council's works, where things of no value are burnt, and all salved materials are disposed of through trade channels.

MATERIALS SALVED DURING PAST 12 MONTHS.

	£	s.	d.
Screenings	110	2	3
Clinkers	15	13	0
Cinders	34	0	6
Bones	12	9	3
Bottles and Jars	53	5	6
Heavy Scrap Metal	111	12	1
Light Scrap Metal	12	15	4
Rags	36	0	10
Cullet Glass	10	13	3
Baled Tins	213	19	1
Non-ferrous Metals	22	13	7
Carpeting and Bagging	15	9	5
Hair	3	5	6
Cardboard	5	17	2
Paper	184	3	6
Sleepers	0	7	6
Hire of Wagon	6	16	6
Disposal of Rural Refuse	46	5	0
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	895	9	3
Value of Stock in Hand at			
December 31st, 1940	90	0	0
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	£985	9	3
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Street Cleansing.

Street cleansing is carried out by a regular staff of sweepers, who work on the beat system. They also cleanse all street gullies.

Public Lavatories.

There are eight of these, seven of which give accommodation for both sexes, and one has accommodation for Males only.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.**SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.**

Visits to property under notice	131
Visits to works in progress	97
Owners or Agents interviewed in lieu of notice	63
Visits to Slaughter-houses	57
Visits to Butchers' Shops	286
Drains Tested	10
Complaints Investigated	51
Rooms Disinfected (Infectious diseases)	13
Rooms Disinfected (Vermin)	40
Zymotic particulars obtained	31
Visits for A.R.P.	176
Visits under Food and Drugs Act (1938)	27
Visits to Houses in Compulsory Purchase Orders ...	34
Visits to Houses in connection with Re-Housing of Tenants	36
Families Removed from Verminous Houses	1
Visits under Food Control	1
Visits to Cowsheds	16
Water Samples taken for analysis	1
Miscellaneous Visits	545
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	1,616
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SECTION D.—HOUSING.

A general supervision has been maintained, and reports relating to dampness, ventilation and minor structural defects have been dealt with.

There has been no further demolition of houses situated in Clearance Areas or under Compulsory Purchase or Demolition Orders, and a number of these are standing empty. It is satisfactory to note the improved conditions under which removed families are living in the new houses provided by the Council.

**SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION
OF FOOD.****Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.**

There are 34 Registered Cow-keepers, and 41 Milk-Retailers in the district.

A large part of the Town's milk supply is brought in from the surrounding Rural District.

Milk Special Designations Order, 1936.

- 3 Licences have been issued to Dealers authorising the sale of Pasteurised Milk ;
- 1 Licence authorising the Pasteurising of Milk ; also
- 3 Licences to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk, and
- 1 Licence to bottle Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Under the provisions of this Act, there are 24 premises registered for the Preparation or Manufacture of Preserved Food, etc., and 17 for the Sale or the Manufacture of Ice-Cream.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTOR.

Slaughtering in this district was suspended in January, 1940, under the Government's centralisation scheme. The meat consumed in Whitby is now drawn from outside sources.

The quantity of unfit food condemned was:—

Meat	270 lbs.
Offal	46 lbs.
Tinned Food	30 lbs.
Fish	8 cwts.
Mussels	3 cwts.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There was an epidemic of Measles among school children during 1940, the cases throughout being of a mild type, and of the 241 cases notified, 107 of them were affecting children below 5 years of age.

Free Immunisation against Diphtheria (under the Council's scheme) was given to 41 children, the Alum Precipitated Toxoid being used.

Since the commencement of the Council's Immunisation Scheme in 1935, 861 treatments have been given up to the end of the year 1940.

CANCER.

NUMBER OF DEATHS.

1940.	1939.	1938.	1937.	1936.
27	14	28	27	22

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)

(Civilian Cases Only)

DURING THE YEAR 1940.

Disease	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	30	30	1
Diphtheria	25	10	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	0	0
Pneumonia	28	0	3
Erysipelas	2	0	0
Measles	241	0	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis...	2	2	2
Poliomyelitis	1	1	0
Ophthalmia	1	0	0
Whooping Cough	5	0	0

ANALYSIS OF AGE GROUPS.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.	Poliomyelitis.	Ophthalmia.	Whooping Cough.
Under 1 year ...	0	0	0	2	0	9	0	0	1	1
1—	1	0	0	1	0	17	0	1	0	0
2—	3	0	0	3	0	26	0	0	0	1
3—	3	1	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0
4—	2	0	0	0	0	26	0	0	0	1
5—	13	3	0	5	0	122	0	0	0	2
10—	6	13	0	2	0	7	0	0	0	0
15—	0	7	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	0
20—	2	1	3	3	0	3	1	0	0	0
35—	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
45—	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0
65 and over	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total ...	30	25	3	28	2	241	2	1	1	5

TUBERCULOSIS, 1940.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1 year ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 to 5 years...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5 to 15 years...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
15 to 25 years...	0	2	0	1	2	1	0	0
25 to 35 years...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 to 45 years...	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
45 to 55 years...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 to 65 years...	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0
65 and over	0	0	0	3	0	1	2	1
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	2	4	0	6	4	2	2	1
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Five Years:

1936	5	7	3	1	3	6	1	1
1937	4	5	5	4	3	2	0	1
1938	8	2	8	5	5	2	1	0
1939	4	2	1	2	0	1	0	1
1940	2	4	0	6	4	2	2	1
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Totals ...	23	20	17	21	15	13	4	4
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